

**MINUTES**  
**YANCEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**7:00 PM**

The meeting of the Town Council was held in the Council Chambers at the Yanceyville Municipal Services Building on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 7:00 PM.

**Council members present:** Alvin Foster- Mayor, Odessa Gwynn- Mayor Pro Tem, Keith Tatum, Margie Badgett-Lampkin, and Brian Massey

**Staff:** Brian Collie- Town Manager, Lee Farmer- Town Attorney, and Kamara Graves- Assistant Town Clerk

**Item 1: Call to Order**

Mayor Alvin Foster called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Meeting opened with a silent prayer. He asked all to stand for the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Foster also stated that the Yanceyville Town Council rules and procedures reflect the revisions of the North Carolina open meetings law of the North Carolina General Statutes, a copy of the Yanceyville Town Council rules and procedures are available upon request.

**Item 2: Review and Adoption of Agenda – Mayor & Council**

Mayor Foster asked Council for a motion to approve the agenda with addition of **Caswell County Local Foods Council- Leslie Zimmerman** between **Item 4: Public Comments** and **Item 5: Closed Session- G. S. 143-318.11- Legal Consultation, Economic Development, Real Estate, and Contractual.** Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition **Caswell Local Foods Council- Leslie Zimmerman.** The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey, and passed with an unanimous.

**Item 3: Consent Agenda**

**a. Minutes from October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

Mayor Foster asked Council to review the minutes from the October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 Town Council Meeting. Councilman Massey made a motion to adopt the consent agenda minutes from October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum, and passed with an unanimous vote.

**b. Special Meeting Minutes from October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Mayor Foster asked Council to review the minutes from the October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Town Council Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to adopt the consent agenda minutes from October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin, and passed with an unanimous vote.

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**Item 4: Public Comment**

None

**Item 5: Caswell County Local Foods Council- Leslie Zimmerman**

Mayor Foster introduced Ms. Rebecca Page, Caswell County Local Food Council. Ms. Page stated, Good Evening. Thank you for allowing us to share our successes with you. This success does not belong to the Caswell County Local Foods Council; it belongs to the people of Caswell and the Town of Yanceyville.

Caswell County Local Foods Council started as a 501c3 in March 2015. In those the three years, we have successfully operated two Farmer Markets, opened inspected community kitchen, offered education outreach regarding healthy eating, offered incentives to shop locally, provided a monthly community building luncheon in Yanceyville, and raised \$11,250 to support these projects. This year, in response to demand, we opened a second Farmer Market in Yanceyville for 12 weeks. During this time, 1,709 shoppers spent 7,698 on local produce. That is 7,698 that Caswell County citizens spent in the County and our growers earned that didn't leave the County. We employed two part-time employees. They earned \$1,263.

Our Power of Produce and Two Bite Club challenged children and adults to eat healthy produce and improve their eating habits. Children and adults get to see, feel, taste, and learn how to prepare fruits and vegetables in simple, tasty ways. They often taste and discover that they like foods they've never tried before. The hope is that this experience will influence them to make healthier choices "one bite at a time". There were 337 shoppers that participated and were rewarded with \$1,685 in tokens that were spent at the market on healthy produce. There were 560 Power of Produce participants, adults, and children that learned about the power of the food they eat. CCLFC reimburses vendors who accept tokens and this is one of the major expenses of our Farmer's Market. There were \$222 SNAP EBT dollars that were doubled so that shoppers could spend \$444 on local produce. Farmers Food Share, with the help of the Caswell County 4-H Home Schoolers Club, collected 487 lbs. of food that was then delivered to the County Outreach Ministry. Soup's on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday -744 diners have shared a nourishing, seasonal lunch together, made with produce grown by local growers when possible.

The Caswell County Local Foods Council's success depends upon our many relationships with other organizations, and individuals inside and beyond the County. These include the United Methodist Churches of Caswell County, Private Business Owners, Shane Brankin, Harry O's BBQ, Yoder's, Caswell Clovers 4-H Home Schoolers Club, County Outreach Ministry, Caswell Health Department, Caswell County Ag Extension, Gunn Memorial Library, Caswell Council for the Arts, Ariel Home Care, The Semora Ruritans, Semora Storage, THRIVE the Healthiest Cities & Counties Challenge,

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Resourceful Communities, Danville Regional Foundation, and Caswell County. CCLFC in turn supports and collaborates with other organization when our projects and missions overlap. Phenomenal connections have been made including Caswell Farmers receiving funds to grow produce for the Outreach Ministry.

CCLFC believes with a thriving, self -sustaining local food economy, people will have the tools and knowledge to make positive food choices that support healthy living. According to the CHA survey, 18.75% of Caswell County respondents stated they have diabetes, 31% had been told that they were overweight/obese. Heart Diseases is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most frequent cause of death after Cancer. All of these diseases are linked to food and in most cases, are preventable. We are addressing these at the root cause. What we're doing is encouraging and fostering RUE health care which in reality is the way we take care of ourselves (our health) every day.

It cost \$302 per market day to run a market. Our assisted sales of the Two Bites Club, doubling the value of Snap purchases and coupon incentives cost \$190 per market. Our vendor fee is \$5 per day or \$20 per season. This allows small farmers the opportunity to sell locally when they may not be able to afford selling at bigger markets that are further away. These subsidized sales directly benefit the vendors while incentivizing shoppers to choose fruits and vegetables when they might not otherwise make those choices, Thus, improving their diet and health "one bite at a time".

Soups' On! 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, the inspiration for the luncheons came from the realization that many in our county don't value locally produced food or have experienced the superior flavor and nutritional value of food when it's truly fresh. So, we decided to serve a free community lunch once per month, made with as much local sourced produce as possible, and invite everyone to the table to be nurtured with wholesome delicious food, enjoy the company, and build relationships.

I hope you will make it a priority to join us at Soups On, shop at your Farmers' Market, and support eating Well Caswell with us! Thank you for your time.

Mayor Foster thanked the Caswell County Local Foods Group for all they do not only for this community, but all of Caswell County.

**Item 6: Closed Session G.S. 143-318.11 Legal Consultation, Economic Development, Real Estate, Contractual, and Personnel**

Mayor Foster asked for a motion to go into closed session G.S. 143-318.11 Legal Consultation, Economic Development, Real -Estate Contractual, and Personnel. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin, and passed with an unanimous vote.

After Council re-entered the chambers from Closed Session Mayor Foster asked for a motion to come out of Closed Session. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum, and passed with an unanimous vote.

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Mayor Foster asked for a motion to go back into Regular Session. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to go back into Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey, and passed with an unanimous vote.

Mayor Foster stated, while we were in Closed Session there were several items that were on the agenda such as, the Water and Wastewater Contract, Open -Space Easement Agreement, and the Endowment Agreement that will come up later in the Agenda.

Mayor Foster stated, he would like to apologize for taking so long in Closed Session, but it was a lot of business to handle tonight.

**Item 7: Review and Consideration of Severn Trent Services, LLC Water & Wastewater System**

Town Manager Collie stated the Town's current Water and Wastewater contract ends December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. He explained the Town went through the process of submitting the Request of Proposal for a full-service contract, which is a step above of the labor- only contract that the Town currently has. The full-service contract includes labor, personnel maintenance, chemical treatment, and labs services of both plants. Town Manager Collie explained that Town Council approved at the October Town Council Meeting the proposal to start contract negotiations with Severn Trent Services LLC, and the contract will begin January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Town Manager Collie explained that during Closed Session we discussed a draft copy of the proposed contract which will be a two-year initial term contract. The contract lists the same figures as far as price, which were included in the approved RFP. Town Manager Collie explained that Town Attorney Farmer, and himself had reviewed the contract over the last several weeks, and have spoken with representatives of Severn Trent with questions and concerns.

Town Manager Collie stated that he is confident with the draft copy that was presented by Severn Trent. He stated that Jerry Shoot, representative of Severn Trent whom he had worked directly with for the last several months was present, and able to answer any questions Council may have.

Town Attorney Farmer stated that he would have to concur with Town Manager Collie that the form and format of the contract with Severn Trent is fine. There are a few minor issues that need to be addressed. Town Attorney Farmer stated, that the contract is very close to being adopted and executed.

Mayor Foster asked for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to authorize, Town Manager Collie, Town Attorney Farmer, and Mayor Foster to execute the contract with Severn Trent after issues have been addressed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum, and passed with an unanimous vote.

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**Item 8: Review and Consideration Richard J. Johnston & William Russell Johnston Open Space Easement Agreement – Town Attorney, Lee Farmer**

Mayor Foster stated, we just received these documents tonight, and we should take some time to review these documents to make sure that we are comfortable with the material presented. It is part of the easement for the Solar Farms from a while back. So, I would like to entertain a motion to table this until the December Town Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to table Item **8: Review and Consideration Richard J. Johnston & William Russell Johnston Open Space Easement Agreement – Town Attorney, Lee Farmer** until the December Town Council Meeting to review the documents received tonight, and take action at the December Town Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin, and passed with an unanimous vote.

**Item 9: Review and Consideration of Risk Management Assessment Letter- Town Attorney Lee Farmer**

Attorney Farmer stated, Mayor Foster due to the late hour, I would suggest that Town Council review this letter, and reconsider at the December Town Council Meeting. This is an annual assessment for the Town that I have developed with Triad Insurance Services, they are retained by our Insurance Services to review risk management issues involving Town Administrations. Some of the items you have seen before, there are a couple of new ones addressed, but I would like to point out letter “G”. There have been numerous Towns particularly in Salisbury and Rowan Counties who have been involved in a multitude of lawsuits and claims where Town Employees have been affected with black mold from working in Town Facilities, and they think that we need to do some testing here in our buildings, but we can discuss this at our December Town Council Meeting.

Mayor Foster asked, Town Council did they agree that we can move this to the December Meeting. Town Council agreed.

**Item 10: Review and Consideration of Robert R. Blackwell Endowment Agreement- Town Attorney, Lee Farmer**

Mayor Foster explained that one of the Town’s responsibilities in the Veterans Memorial Project is the sidewalk. The Robert Blackwell Estate is going to Endow the Town \$12,500 to go toward the sidewalk. There are a couple of stipulations regarding the money. They would like a small plaque to be inserted referencing that money the was awarded to the Town by the Robert Blackwell Estate for the Memorial sidewalk. The money will be set aside, and the Town will have seven years to spend the money.

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Mayor Foster asked for a motion. Councilman Tatum made a motion to accept \$12,500 Endowment from the Robert Blackwell Estate. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey, and passed with a unanimous vote.

**Item 11: Review and Consideration of Dugger Realty Transfer- Town Attorney Lee Farmer**

Mayor Foster explained that this item was one of the Real Estate issues that was addressed in Closed Session. He explained that this property is located on West Main Street Map and Parcel 00Y41001. He addressed that there are tax lends on the property that have to be paid before a deed is issued. Mayor Foster explained that the Town has a court order to put the property in the Town's name once the tax lend is paid. Mayor Foster noted that the Town spent nearly \$20,000 on demolition and restoration of this property.

Mayor Foster also explained that the County has made an offer to the Town to purchase the land beyond the old Town Hall building behind the Library from the Town. Mayor Foster stated, we need a motion to accept the County's offer +/- of a ½ acre. Town Manager Collie explained that the land has not being survey at this time the approval would be contingent upon the survey. The County is responsible for getting the land survey.

Mayor Foster stated, we need a motion to accept the County's offer of \$9,000 for the tract of land. Town Manager Collie explained that the tract of land that the Town currently owns is tax valued at 1.2 acres, and the County is offering to buy a proposed .6 acres that would be contingent upon a survey of the property. Town Manager Collie stated, the current property value for 1.2 acres was tax valued at \$34,000.

Mayor Foster asked for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to accept the County's offer of \$9,000 for the property behind the library. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum, and passed with an unanimous vote

Mayor Foster asked for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to authorize, the Finance Officer to pay the tax lend of \$10,508.49 on the property on West Main Street Map and Parcel 00Y41001. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey, and passed with an unanimous vote

**Item 12: Review and Consideration of Public Safety Memorandum- Town Attorney Lee Farmer**

Attorney Farmer stated that, this item can be addressed at the December Town Council Meeting. He explained that since the incident that happen in Texas early November there has been a multitude of emails, memorandums, and reports sent from Homeland Security, International Association of City Attorney's, and Several Universities.

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Attorney Farmer explained they are pointing out, and would like small Towns to be aware that they believe in the next couple of years small Towns like Yanceyville could possibly be problem areas for mass violence in the future just as the small Town in Texas experienced. They particularly think that Towns with less than 10,000 people located in the Southwestern and Southeastern United States could potentially be future victims of an incident similar to what happened in Texas. They are suggesting that small Town and Villages look at their public safety situations for the future to have a Police Department or enhance security. Attorney Farmer stated, I feel that it's my responsibility to give this to you all to review.

**Item 13: Discussion of Wi-Fi Project Proposal- Steve Brooks**

Town Manager Collie stated, Steve Brooks, Brooks Networking Services intended on attending tonight, but is unable to due to an illness. Town Manager Collie explained that Town Council has meet and discussed with Mr. Brooks on the potential proposal of the Wi-Fi Project. Town Manager Collie explained that the Town years ago started a Wi-Fi project with the end goal of providing Town residents, and people within the Town public Wi-Fi access. The prior company that was contracted with the Town to provide these services faced legal issues, which stopped the initial project. Town Manager Collie explained that we have talked about this project many times, and it has been several years, and the project hasn't been completed. He explained that the quote from Brooks Network Services provided a proposal, and it entails three phases. The initial startup would be around \$105,000, which would include Main St, and Court square basically the heart of downtown. Town Manager Collie expressed, once you get the heart of the project done future expansions will not be as expensive as the start-up.

Town Manager Collie stated, The United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development: Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program is a potential great opportunity to help fund the Town's Wi-Fi project. He explained that the Town used this program to fund the Fire Department expansion project. Town Manager Collie explained that he was not looking for approval tonight he just wanted to update Council. He explained that it's a certain criterion for what the loan/grant program can be used for. Town Manager Collie stated that he has gotten an initial verbal approval that the Wi-Fi project can be covered under this program. It is a 0% interest 10-year loan program. He explained that if the Town wanted to move forward with this project then economically this would be the best option for the Town. Town Manager Collie stated, that we will need to get an updated proposal from Mr. Brooks as far as what Council would like to see included in the initial startup phase. Once the update is complete he would seek approval to submit an application to the Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program. Town Manager Collie stated, I would like to table this discussion until the December Meeting.

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**Item 14: Review and Consideration of Yanceyville Water/Sewer Connection Policy Amendment**

Town Manager Collie stated, that a draft copy of the Yanceyville Water/Sewer Connection Policy was included in the agenda packet. The policy explains that a property owner, and or commercial business that has access to the Town's water/sewer lines and would like to make a connection a cost associated, such as tap fees and connection fees. Town Manager Collie explained, that the Water and Sewer Tappage Fee Schedule is outline on page three highlighted in red. The water tap fee varies depending on the size of the line. The water tappage fee for in- town is Cost + 10% which is the Town's cost to make the tap. Town Manager Collie explained that the cost varies drastically depending on which side of the road the home or business is located. Since 2005 the water tap fee outside the city on water lines specifically is Cost +100%. Town Manager Collie explained that individuals have contacted him about quotes on connecting to the water line, but due to the cost they are not interested. He explained that water plant provides water outside the Town. At this time there is not a lot of activity on the water line outside of Town, but the more customers that you are able to connect on the water line, water quality improves. Town Manager Collie explained, that the Cost + 100% for outside the Town is basically saying that we don't want any connections outside Town. We have the ability to provide water service to individuals outside the Town we should embrace the service when possible. Town Manager Collie made a recommendation to acquire more customers and improve water quality the outside rate for water connection should be Cost +10 % just as inside the Town.

Mayor Foster asked for a motion. Councilman Tatum made a motion to change the Water and Sewer Tappage Fee to Cost + 10% across the board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey, and passed with an unanimous vote.

**Item 15: Discussion of Yanceyville Water Tower Improvement**

Town Manager Collie updated Council on the Water Tower located on Highway 86. He stated, that there are issues with antennas that were installed improperly, and unknown antennas. It is a safety issue as far as tank maintenance. Several of the antennas that are not in use have been disconnected. He explained that the Town will have to pay someone to remove the antennas and wiring off the ladder of the water tank/tower. Town Manager Collie stated he wanted approval from Council to move forward to spend funds to correct the issues with the water tank. He stated when he gets a price quote on removing all illegally place and unknown antennas on the tower he will bring it back before Council. Town Manager Collie explained, that in the last two weeks he has received several phone calls from individuals wanting to locate antennas on the water tank/tower correctly. Mayor Foster stated, that there needs to be a policy implemented for the water tank.

Town Manager Collie stated, he needed the authority to move forward and Council acknowledge that there are issues that have to addressed. He explained that the water tank



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has to be inspected annually. Mayor Foster asked, what antennas are in use? Town Manager Collie responded, the County has antennas, the Yanceyville Fire Department, and the remaining antennas need to be removed.

Mayor Foster asked Council for a motion. Councilwoman Badgett- Lampkin made a motion to authorize Town Manager Collie to move forward with the water tank improvements as far as antennas and wiring. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum, and passed with an unanimous vote.

Councilman Massey, suggested that Town Manager Collie get a price quote for fencing to be placed around the water tower.

Mayor Foster stated that the storage building located by the water tank is owned by the County and it houses the radio equipment for their antennas. The County has the key to the storage building.

**Item 16: GOP Building Use Request Approval**

Assistant Town Clerk Graves explained, that the Town's Building Use Request, states if a political party or any political affiliation request use of the Municipal Building it will have to be approved by the Town Council first. Assistant Town Clerk Graves noted that the GOP would like to use the Municipal Building on Tuesday November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 from 7pm until 8:30pm.

Mayor Foster asked Council for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to allow the GOP the use of the Municipal Building on Tuesday November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 from 7pm -8:30pm with proper paperwork submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum, and passed with an unanimous vote

**Item 17: Informal Discussion/Public Comments- Discussion & Comments must directly relate to agenda items**

Mayor Foster asked, if anyone had any comments at this time. Ms. Kim Monroe stated, the County has a key to the storage building, and they allow people to locate antennas on the water tower? Town Manager Collie explained, that the County owns the storage building where the lines from the antennas actually run into the power source, and this has been issues that have happened over time. He explained that the first step is cleaning up the issues with the tank, and moving forward by securing the tower/ tank so that these issues will not occur again. Ms. Monroe stated, so the Town will be responsible for paying for this? Town Manager Collie replied yes, we are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the tank/tower.

Mayor Foster acknowledged Mr. Claggett standing. My name is John Claggett, and I reside in the County. I would like to thank Council for acknowledging the Veterans. Mr.

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Claggett stated, it has been a big shift, when I first came home Vietnam I go spit on, and Yanceyville is the only place that I have ever been that has an active Veterans program, and that warms my heart. Mr. Claggett stated that I noticed this evening that most of the items voted on were unanimous. Earlier I noticed that only 80% of the Board stood for the Pledge and that saddens me, because the last six words of the Pledge of Allegiance is "liberty and justice for all". I would like to know why? Why is there such a division? Thank you for your time.

Mr. Jim Martin stated, I think we are asking for an answer from the 20 % that did not Pledge of Allegiance. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated I can tell you why I did not, the Pledge of Allegiance is not something that you have to do. It is not on my case any offense to any Veteran, I have two brothers that are Veterans. Mr. Martin stated, that's wonderful. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, that it is not any offense to any Veteran. Mr. Martin stated so why don't you Pledge of Allegiance? Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, because it is my right not to. Mr. Martin stated, I understand I fought for that right. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, if you noticed that during the standing of the Pledge of Allegiance I was praying. Mr. Martin stated, that's not the same thing. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, that is what I do instead of standing. Mr. Martin stated, would you read the Pledge of Allegiance, and try to understand the words. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated I have many, many times I have looked the words up and have had discussions. Mr. Martin stated, did you take an Oath to be in your position? Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, yes, I did. Mr. Martin stated, what kind of Oath did you take? Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, I took an Oath to protect this Town, make the laws, go through the resolutions and regulations for this Town. Mr. Martin stated, and to represent the people that put you in office. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, yes. Mr. Martin stated, do all of your constituents feel the same way you do about the Pledge of Allegiance? Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, I don't know. Mr. Martin stated, you need to find out, if you are going to misrepresent them. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, I am not misrepresenting anyone when I do that. I am following a Constitutional Law of 1943 which gives me the right to do that. So, I am not breaking any laws. Mr. Martin stated I didn't say that you were, but you are still misrepresenting all of your people, because they would come in and stand up for the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated no, I don't think so. Mr. Martin stated so only certain people would stand up? Could you give me a more specific reason why you don't/ want Pledge of Allegiance to this Country? And what Country do you Pledge Allegiance too? Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, I don't Pledge Allegiance to a flag. Mr. Martin stated, that not just a flag that a symbol of the United States of America. Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin stated, it's just a symbol.

Mayor Foster stated, to Mr. Martin I appreciate your input, and if you would like to finish this discussion after the meeting you certainly can, I think the point has been made I appreciate you all for being here, and for your participation. Mr. Martin stated, I would like to thank you again for honoring the Veterans.

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Mayor Foster stated, does anyone else have any questions or comments about agenda items?

**Item 18: Adjournment**

Mayor Foster asked Council for a motion to adjourn. After no further discussion, Councilman Tatum made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey, and passed with an unanimous vote.

Brian Collie, Town Manager/Clerk, and Kamara Graves, Assistant Town Clerk prepared the above minutes. They represent a brief description of those matters that were addressed at this meeting. A detailed account of this meeting is available for review on tape at the Yanceyville Municipal Services Building.

Respectively Submitted:

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Alvin Foster, Mayor

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Brian Collie, Town Manager / Clerk

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Kamara Graves, Assistant Town Clerk